

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4292
ANSWERED ON:02.05.2012
MID DAY MEAL SCHEME
Chitthan Shri N.S.V.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) the names of States where the Scheme of mid-day meal in schools has been introduced;
- (b) the names of the States where the Scheme is yet to be started;
- (c) the share of the Central Government for running mid-day-meal scheme in the States;
- (d) whether the Government has formulated a nationwide policy on the Scheme and if so, the details thereof; and
- (e) the impact of mid-day-meals on elementary education?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (Dr. D. PURANDESWARI)

(a) & (b): The Mid Day Meal (MDM) Scheme has been implemented in all the States/Union Territories across the country.

(c): The expenditure on foodgrains, transportation, Management Monitoring & Evaluation and kitchen devices is borne in full by the Central Government. The cost of cooking, payment of honorarium to cook-cum-helpers, and construction of kitchen-cum-stores is shared between the Central Government and the North Eastern Region States on 90:10 basis and other States/UTs on 75:25 basis.

(d): Yes, Sir. Under the MDM Scheme, the policy of the Government is to covers children studying in class I-VIII in all Government, Government aided, Local Body and National Child Labour Project Schools, Education Guarantee Scheme / Alternative and Innovative Education centres and Madarsas / Maqtabs supported under Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan. The Scheme provides mid day meals with an energy content of 450 calories and 12 grams of protein, which is derived from 100 gms of food grains (rice/wheat), 20 gms of pulses, 50 gms of vegetables and 5 gms of oil for children studying in primary classes. At upper primary level, the Scheme provides for an energy content of 700 calories and 20 grams of protein, which is derived from 150 gms of food grains (rice/wheat), 30 gms of pulses, 75 gms of vegetables and 7.5 gms of oil. Nutrition content is further improved by using double fortified salt with iron and iodine as well as green leafy vegetables, as per the Mid Day Meal guidelines.

In order to ensure effective implementation, the scheme guidelines provide for a detailed monitoring mechanism at the school, block, district, State and the National levels. For ensuring quality control, joint inspections are carried out by District Authorities and FCI representatives before lifting foodgrains. The scheme is constantly reviewed through Quarterly Progress Reports, National level Steering-cum-Monitoring Committee meetings, Programme Approval Board meetings and Central Review Missions. In addition independent monitoring institutes evaluate the Scheme at regular intervals.

(e): Independent evaluation studies on the Mid-Day Meal Scheme in different parts of the country have affirmed the positive impact of the scheme on universalization of elementary education by increasing enrolment and attendance and by decreasing drop-out rates.